Fertilizer production

1398. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target fixed for production of fertilizers has been achieved by all the fertilizer units in the country during the first four months of the current year;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the subsidy provided to the fertilizer producing units during 2006-07 and the percentage increased in the subsidy amount during 2007-08 as compared to the previous year;

(d) whether Government are considering an alternative calculation method for providing more subsidy on fertilizers in country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Production of chemical fertilizers during April-July, 2007 has been of the order of 108.03 LMT as against production plan of 119.21 LMT submitted by the producing units for this period in the beginning of the year. Slight decline in production *vis-a-vis* the plan has been on account of temporary shutdown of plants of some of the producing units due to technical problems, shortage of gas liquidity problems faced by some of the companies and constraints in availability of inputs like phos. acid, etc.

(c) Details regarding subsidy provided on indigenous production of urea and concession to manufacturers on sale of indigenous decontrolled (P&K) fertilizers during 2006-07 and April-July, 2007 are indicated below:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Urea subsidy on indigenous production	Subsidy on sale of indigenous decontrolled (P&K) fertilizers
2006-07	12,650.37	6648.16
2007-08 (April-July)	7696.60	3126.59

(d) and (e) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been set up to look into sustainable use of fertilizers and pertinent subsidy and pricing issues. The matter relating to alternative methods for providing subsidy on fertilizers is also under consideration of the GoM.

Money Back Guarantee on medicines

1399. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain pharma companies are offering "Money Back Guarantee" in case expensive drugs do not work on patients;